

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF FREDERICK COUNTY
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, May 19, 2020**

Council Members M.C. Keegan-Ayer, President; Michael Blue, Vice-President, Jerry Donald, Kai Hagen, Jessica Fitzwater, Phil Dacey and Steve McKay were present for the meeting.

Also present were Ragen Cherney, Chief of Staff, County Council; Bryon Black, Assistant County Attorney; Sarah Ambrosio, Recording Secretary; and Sydnee Klimko, Legislative Analyst, County Council.

Council President M.C. Keegan-Ayer called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. virtually via video conference.

Opening Statement from Council President M.C. Keegan-Ayer

Good Evening and welcome to the virtual meeting of the Frederick County Council. Today is Tuesday, May 19, 2020, and today is a legislative day for the County Council.

The Frederick County Council is continuing to conduct all of our meetings on-line during this time. We are all working remotely and will continue to do so until it is safe to return to our normal meeting format.

Our meetings continue to be televised on Frederick County Government Channel 19, on Frederick County Government's website: www.FrederickCountyMD.Gov/FCGTV, and now because of the efforts of Council and Administration staff, we are using a new software program which creates a portal for the public to watch and participate in our meetings. If you would like to check out this new format, please go to www.frederickcountymd.gov/councilmeetings to watch us.

Through this portal you can watch our meetings live, you can write a comment or leave a voice message which we will be playing live at the appropriate times during our meetings. Additional methods of participation will be available soon. Ultimately, the goal is to allow the usual full public participation in our meetings even while we are meeting virtually.

You may still send us comments via email at (Councilmembers@frederickcountymd.gov), or by calling (301) 600-1135 and leaving a voicemail message. All comments received will be reflected in the minutes by the name of the speaker and the subject.

Also, during these virtual meetings, we will be accepting comments from the public until 5:00 pm on the following business day and all will be included in the minutes.

As a reminder during these virtual meetings, I will periodically stop to allow the members to ask any questions they might have on the issue being discussed...I will call the council members by name to make sure the public is aware of which member has the floor, and how each council member has voted.

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As a continued caution to our Council Members – Please be respectful of each other's time and wait to be recognized before you begin to speak. Remember the microphone issue and please limit your questions to one at a time, thereby allowing your colleagues the opportunity to ask questions as well. I will come back around as many times as necessary, to allow all CMs the ability to fully participate in our discussions.

To begin our meeting, the President started with a roll call vote to determine a quorum, since not everyone was visible on the screen. Members present responded "here". CM Blue, Dacey, Donald, Fitzwater, Hagen, and McKay. The President conducted a roll call of the members. All seven (7) council members responded in the affirmative.

The President then lead a moment of silence to remember those who were working so hard to contain the deadly disease, all those working on the front lines, the doctors, nurses, hospital staff, the emergency responders, the families and friends of those who have been sickened and were fighting for their lives, and unfortunately those who have lost their battle and have died..

The meeting began with a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Action on the Agenda

Council Member Michael Blue moved to approve the agenda as presented. Council Member Kai Hagen seconded the motion that passed 7-0.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 4 – Fitzwater	X		
District 5 – Blue	X		
At-large – Dacey	X		
At-large – Hagen	X		
Presiding Officer – Keegan-Ayer	X		

Public Comment was heard from:

- Kate Frazier
- Erin Lawrence
- Steve Gibson
- Tom Disney
- Megan McMahon

Business Items:

Budget Adjustments

- J-20-264 – Utilities and Solid Waste Management Division

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- J-20-265 – Housing and Community Development, Citizens Services Division
- J-20-266 – Accounting, Finance Division
- J-20-268 – Drug Court, Circuit Court
- J-20-270 – Circuit Court
- J-20-271 – Office of Sustainability and Environmental Resources
- J-20-272 – Emergency Communications, Emergency Management Division
- J-20-274 – Senior Services Division
- J-20-275 – Senior Services Division

Council Member Steve McKay moved to approve the budget adjustment J-20-264, J-20-265, J-20-269 and J-20-268, J-20-270, J-20-271, J-20-272, J-20-274 and J-20-275, as presented. Council Member Jerry Donald seconded the motion that passed 7-0.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 4 – Fitzwater	X		
District 5 – Blue	X		
At-large – Dacey	X		
At-large – Hagen	X		
Presiding Officer – Keegan-Ayer	X		

Approval of Minutes from April 28, May 5, and Budget Workshop Minutes April 30, 2020.

Council Member Jessica Fitzwater moved to approve the minutes from April 28, May 5, and Budget Workshop Minutes April 30, 2020 as presented. Council Member Kai Hagen seconded the motion that passed 7-0.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 4 – Fitzwater	X		
District 5 – Blue	X		
At-large – Dacey	X		
At-large – Hagen	X		
Presiding Officer – Keegan-Ayer	X		

Adoption of the Tax Levy Ordinance for July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Kelly Weaver, Budget Officer provided information to the Council on the Adoption of the Tax Levy Ordinance for July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021.

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Council Member Jessica Fitzwater moved to approve the Adoption of the Tax Levy Ordinance for July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 with a tax rate of 1.06 for Frederick County, 0.9432 for the City of Frederick and 0.9373 for Myersville as presented. Council Member Kai Hagen seconded the motion that passed 4-3.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay		X	
District 4 – Fitzwater	X		
District 5 – Blue		X	
At-large – Dacey		X	
At-large – Hagen	X		
Presiding Officer – Keegan-Ayer	X		

FY2021 Budget Adoption Ordinance

Kelly Weaver, Budget Officer provided information to the Council on the FY2021 Budget Adoption Ordinance.

Council Member Kai Hagen moved to approve the FY2021 Budget Adoption Ordinance as presented. Council Member Jessica Fitzwater seconded the motion that passed 6-1.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 4 – Fitzwater	X		
District 5 – Blue	X		
At-large – Dacey		X	
At-large – Hagen	X		
Presiding Officer – Keegan-Ayer	X		

Motion to go Into Closed Session

A motion was made at 7:15 p.m., by Council Member Steve McKay, to go into closed session in accordance with Maryland Annotated Code General Provisions Article §3-305(b)(1) To discuss: (i) The appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; or (ii) Any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals. Council Member Kai Hagen seconded the motion that passed 7-0.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
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District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 4 – Fitzwater	X		
District 5 – Blue	X		
At-large – Dacey	X		
At-large – Hagen	X		
Presiding Officer – Keegan-Ayer	X		

***The council went into closed session at 8:12 p.m.*

Public Comment was heard from:

- John Deni
- Carrie Lewis
- Andrea Dudshoorn
- Jennie Lane
- Mikaela Fischer
- Charlotte Dinsmore
- Eduardo Martinez
- Robert McNally
- Dan D'Agastino
- Caitlyn Wade
- Patty Knoble
- Brenda Shrader

Council Member Comments:

Council Member comments were provided.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

M.C. Keegan-Ayer, President
County Council

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**FORM OF STATEMENT FOR
CLOSING THE MEETING OF TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2020**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY TO CLOSE SESSION

Maryland Annotated Code General Provisions Article §3-305(b)(1) To discuss: (i) The appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; or (ii) Any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.

Motion

A motion was made at 7:15 p.m., by Council Member Steve McKay, to go into closed session in accordance with Maryland Annotated Code General Provisions Article §3-305(b)(1) To discuss: (i) The appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; or (ii) Any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals. The motion was seconded by Council Member Kai Hagen, which passed 7-0.

Time and Location:

8:12 p.m. – Held Virtually Via Teams Meeting

Topic for Discussion:

To evaluate and interview a possible candidate that the Council may consider for confirmation.

M.C. Keegan-Ayer, President
County Council

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**FORM OF STATEMENT FOR MINUTES OF NEXT OPEN MEETING
ON TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2020
FOLLOWING THE CLOSED MEETING OF TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2020**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY TO CLOSE SESSION

Maryland Annotated Code General Provisions Article §3-305(b)(1) To discuss: (i) The appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; or (ii) Any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.

Motion:

A motion was made at 7:15 p.m., by Council Member Steve McKay, to go into closed session in accordance with Maryland Annotated Code General Provisions Article §3-305(b)(1) To discuss: (i) The appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; or (ii) Any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals. The motion was seconded by Council Member Kai Hagen, which passed 7-0.

Time and Location:

8:12 p.m. – Held Virtually Via Teams Meeting

Others in Attendance:

Ragen Cherney, Council Chief of Staff; Bryon Black, Assistant County Attorney; Sarah Ambrosio, Recording Secretary; Rick Harcum, Chief Administrative Officer, County Executive's Office.

Topic Discussed:

To evaluate and interview a possible candidate that the Council may consider for confirmation.

Action Taken:

None

M.C. Keegan-Ayer, President
County Council